



From the NIFA Communications Office

NIFA in the News – Week of June 11, 2012

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In the News

Regional project has begun its second year of research (The Valley News 6/11).

An Iowa State University-led regional project has begun its second year of research examining long-term impacts of climate on Midwestern corn crops. The Climate and Corn-based Cropping Systems Coordinated Agricultural Project is funded by a \$20 million grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture. [Link](#)

Climate change team tours research sites (Capital Press 6/11). Participants in a multi-year \$20 million climate change study will next week tour research sites across the region. They are analyzing the effects the changing climate will have on agriculture, such as higher summer temperatures. The USDA-funded Regional Approaches to Climate Change in Pacific Northwest Agriculture (REACCH) project involves 65 researchers from the University of Idaho, Oregon State University, USDA Agricultural Research Service and Washington State University. [Link](#)

Women in both Iowa and Afghanistan play a major role in agriculture (The Daily Iowan 6/13). Though one may think first of the many differences between Iowa and Afghanistan, one local expert said women's roles in agriculture is one of the several similarities between the two. Denise O'Brien, an organic farmer from Atlantic, Iowa, returned in April from a yearlong stay in Afghanistan, where she served as an agricultural adviser for the U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of Foreign Service Operations/Overseas. "We were setting up a system in Afghanistan similar to the extension system in the United States," O'Brien said. The cooperative extension system is a network of state, local, and regional offices that provide "useful, practical, and research-based information to agricultural producers, small-business owners, youth, consumers, and others in rural areas and communities of all sizes," according to the National Institute of Food and Agriculture official website. [Link](#)

How NW Ag can deal with Climate Change (Natural Resource Report 6/13). The

topic of climate change is filled with questions. Scientists from the PNW have joined together to begin to answer some of these questions as they relate to wheat production systems. REgional Approaches to Climate CHange for Pacific Northwest Agriculture (REACCH-PNA) consists of a team of more than 30 scientists from Oregon State University, the University of Idaho, Washington State University, and the Agricultural Research Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. This \$20 million, five-year project aims to ensure the long-term viability of cereal-based farming in the inland Pacific Northwest amid a changing climate and to identify farming practices that can help reduce greenhouse gas emissions. This project was funded by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) starting in February 2011. [Link](#)

Dairy Grazing Apprenticeship signs borrower training agreement with Wisconsin FSA (AgriView 6/13). Wisconsin Farm Service Agency (FSA) Farm Loan Program (FLP) announced recently that it has signed a Management Training Agreement with the Dairy Grazing Apprenticeship, an initiative of GrassWorks, Inc. The Dairy Grazing Apprenticeship was developed with funds awarded through the United States Department of Agriculture-National Institute of Food and Agriculture's Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program. [Link](#)

UOG Celebrates 150th Anniversary of Morrill Act (Pacific News Center 6/15). This year marks the 150th Anniversary of the Morrill Act, which allowed for the creation of Land-Grant Colleges and Universities in the United States. Since its inception in 1972, among the most significant endeavors made by UOG CES is a child obesity prevention program funded through an extramural grant under the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) program of the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, USDA. [Link](#)
